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Trybuna Ludu, No 332, 1949.

The resolution concerning special benefits for miners, taken under consideration at a meeting of the Council of Ministers on 30 November, states

Considering (1) the importance of the coal industry in the development of the national economy, (2) the great achievement of the miners, (3) miners' services in popularizing work competition, which resulted in the opening of new production possibilities and the development of the existing workshops, and (4) the especially lifficult working conditions, the Council of Ministers, on the motion of the Minister of Mining and Power and with the approval of the Miners' Trade Union and the Chief Council of Trade Unions, has decided to improve conditions for the miners, and to grant special benefits and considerations as to wages, honorary sights, social and health services, pensions, and

The Council of Ministers resolves:

I. Wages

- 1. To pay miners working underground and technicians and engineers of the coal-mining industry special quarterly remuneration proportionate to the basic quarterly wage:
- a. For workers employed at the face and in sinking mine shafts, and for supervisory technicians and engineers: 10 percent after one year or more of uninterrupted employment in the same mine, active or under construction; 15 percent after 2-5 years; 20 percent after more than 5 years.
- b. For workers employed elsewhere: 5 percent after one year of uninterrupted employment at the same mine, 10 percent after 2-5 years, and 15 percent after more than 5 years.

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c. For coal-mining technicians and engineers employed in the administrative positions of the coal industry, in mining schools and institutes, and in the Ministry of Mining and Power: 15 percent after 5 years employment with the industry.

2. To rule that:

- a. The special quarterly bonus is exempt from taxes and various other deductions,
- . b. buexcused absence of even one day during the quarter involves loss of the quarterly bonus.

II. Honorary Benefits

- 1. To award an official diploma to workers achieving the grade of coal cutter, assistant coal cutter, and skilled worker of the coal industry.
- 2. To issue official state decorations to workers employed in active mines or mines under construction for uninterrupted and excellent work underground as follows:
 - 5 years Bronze Cross of Merit
 - 7 years Silver Cross of Merit
 - 10 years Gold Cross of Merit
 - 20 years Banner of Work Class II
 - 25 years Banner of Work Class I

The time is to be calculated from the date of Liberation.

- 3. To empower the Minister of Mining and Power to present official state decorations to employees of many years' service before they reach the number specified under Paragraph 2 of this section.
- 4. To maintain a grade system and emphasize the dignity of the vocation by setting up the following job classifications: General Mining Director, grades 1-3; Mining Director, grades 1-3; Mining Engineer, grades 1-3; Mining Technician, grades 1-3; Miner, grades, 1-3; Mining Apprentice, grades 1-3. Special insignia will distinguish each of these classes.
- 5. To introduce, in addition to traditional dress, a service uniform showing the official position and service stripes. These service stripes should also be worn on the traditional dress.
- 6. To introduce the title of "Distinguished Miner of People's Poland" and a special badge of merit to be bestowed by the Minister of Mining and Power on the most worthy shock workers among the miners who have at least 5 years' service underground, together with the traditional dress bearing the service stripes.
- 7. To reward employees with a record of 25 years' service with a special honorary bronze badge and a souvenir watch and those with at least 35 years' service with an additional silver honorary badge in addition to the rewards stipulated in Paragraph 2 of this section.

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III. Social Health Service and Pousion Regulations

- 1. To increase the coal mines' allotments for educational purposes for miners' children attending the first seven grades of elementary school to 1,500 zlotys once a year at the beginning of the school year.
- 2. To increase from 70 to 100 percent the allowance paid to employees of the coal industry by social insurance institutions during the period of temporary disability due to accident underground, beginning with the sixth day of disability. Welfare allowance will be increased from 50 to 70 percent.
- 3. To assure the underground mine workers, as of 1 January 1951, annuity and person benefits to a maximum of 60 percent of the average wage based on years of service and degree of disability.
- 4. To see that, as of 1 January 1951, a worker employed underground receives the largest annuity and pension stipulated in Paragraph 2 (of this section) on reaching 55 years of age with at least 25 years' service, regardless of the degree of disability or loss of earning capacity.
 - 5. To equalize insurance payments for permanent disability.
- 6. To establish the right of miners to annuities and pensions due them regardless of gainful employment.

IV. Leave

- 1. To ratify the existing regulations concerning leave; as of 1 January 1950, to increase to 21 calendar lays to be paid as working days, the paid leave of cutters and loaders who have at least one year of uninterrupted service in one mine.
- 2. A worker having at least 3 years of uninterrupted service is to be entitled to receive free, once a year, a round-trip ticket for himself and one other member of his family to any chosen destination.

General and Final Regulations

- 1. The period of employment required to secure the benefits specified is to be calculated from the day of the opening of the establishments of the coal industry after cessation of war activities in 1945. However, years of service in the coal industry in Poland before 1945 will be taken into consideration in applying the benefits described in Paragraph 7, Section II. Years of service underground will be taken into consideration in applying the benefits described in Paragraphs 3 and 4, Section III.
- The transfer of an employee from one mine to another is not to constitute an interruption in the continuity of service.
 - 3. This resolution becomes effective on the day of its publication.

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